



# Columbia Chatter

Volume 1, Issue 2

October 2011

Columbia Elementary School Parent - Teacher Organization Newsletter

## PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

October is here and you guessed it, it's MEAP test time! I am sure many parents wonder what the MEAP is all about. It's an assessment which was built specifically to measure the content standards (the GLCEs). Beginning with fall 2005, MEAP assessments are based on new content standards for both reading and mathematics. Mathematics and Reading assessments are administered in each grade from Grade 3 to Grade 8. These tests cover content taught during the previous school year. Writing assessments are administered in grades 4 and 7; science in grades 5 and 8; social studies assessments in grades 6 and 9. The writing, science, and social studies assessments cover content from the previous two to three grade levels.

MEAP begins the week of October 10th at CES for students in grades 3 and 4. Here are a few things you can do to help your child get ready and perform his/her very best.

### Preparing:

- See that your child gets a good night sleep.
- See that your child eats a good breakfast.
- See that your child arrives at school on time and is relaxed.
- Encourage your child to do the best work possible.
- Do not send your child to school if illness is apparent.
- If at all possible, do not remove your child from school on test days for appointments.

### Parent Strategies for Reducing Test Anxiety:

- Discuss the test openly and in a positive way.
- Have realistic expectations of your child's performance while encouraging his/her best efforts.
- Emphasize that the test is only one measure of academic performance.
- Emphasize that test scores do not determine a person's worth.

Thank you in advance for helping your child get ready for MEAP. As always, if you have any questions, please give me a call at the office or drop by.

## 1st Annual CES Race for Education! Friday, October 7, 2011

Race for Education is replacing the typical fall fundraiser—there will be no magazines with items that we may not want, need or use. 100% of every dollar earned goes directly to CES! Each child was sent home with a packet last Friday and will be asking for pledges to provide for extracurricular activities, such as the art program, field trips, playground upkeep, assemblies, scholarships, and more. (Please make checks payable to CES. If requested, a tax donation receipt is included.)



In addition to the money earned, we are asking you to join your child/children on October 7th and help us reach our goal of walking 1500 miles (healthy snacks and drinks will be provided)! There will also be many prizes awarded to the kids who participate, with the grand prize being an overnight stay for a family of four at Splash Universe!

This is a great time to donate to our school and our children's future, and it is also a wonderful opportunity for us to come together with our children and the CES staff and get our bodies moving! If you are planning on attending, you **must** have a background check completed. Thank you, and we hope to see you there!

### Playground Walking Times:

- 8:20 am —9:00 am 2nd Graders
- 8:50 am —9:30 am Kindergarten
- 9:20 am —10:00 am 1st Graders
- 1:00 pm —1:40 pm 4th Graders
- 1:30 pm —2:10 pm—3rd Graders





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## CE'S FALL CARNIVAL

Friday, October 28th

6:00 pm — 8:30 pm

Columbia Central High School

**(better parking and more space available inside the high school!)**

Tickets: 5/\$1.00 Pre-Sale or 4/\$1.00 at the door

*Pre-sale tickets will be sold on the following days:*

**October 26th and 27th**

7:30 am—8:00 am

11:00 am—1:00 pm

3:00 pm—3:30 pm

**October 28th**

7:30 am—8:00 am

11:00 am—1:00 pm

*Wear a costume and you'll receive 4 free tickets!*

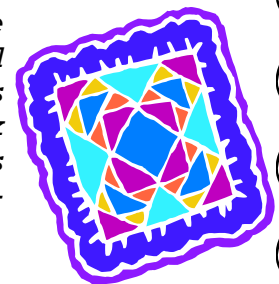


HAUNTED HALLWAY \* 50/50 RAFFLE \* FACE PAINTING  
ELEPHANT EARS \* CAKE WALK \* LOTS OF GAMES \* FAMILY FUN \* PRIZES FOR  
EVERYONE \* SILENT AUCTION \* QUILT RAFFLE \* BALLOON TWISTERS  
CARNIVAL FOOD \* AND MUCH MORE!



*There will be lots of delicious carnival food and meal-deals, so come hungry!  
You may purchase food with cash or tickets.*

*Each class has been hard at work making beautiful classroom quilts that will be raffled off at the carnival. Each child makes his or her own square and when all of the squares are sewn together we get a wonderful keepsake from your child's classroom full of memories. Make sure that when you walk into CES you look around the lobby to see the quilts that are already finished. The classroom quilts will be raffled off at the carnival for \$1.00 a ticket. Watch for information on raffle tickets to come home soon!*



*Volunteers are still needed for set-up, games, food, and tear-down. Please contact Jill Miller at 517-581-6944.*





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*CES Family Portrait Fundraiser  
October 11th indoor at CES  
October 12th and 15th at Swain Park*

*75% of Sitting Fee and 10% of printing proceeds go directly to CES!  
Great chance to support your school and get that family picture you have been putting off! Also great for Christmas cards! Sign up for a time slot at school or e-mail [april@aprilscttphoto.com](mailto:april@aprilscttphoto.com) or call (248) 787-1313.*

*April Scott Photography*

**STUDENT COUNT DAY  
OCTOBER 5, 2011**

**Make sure your child is present at school on October 5th.**



Columbia Elementary School  
Health Care Institute for Parents  
Thursday, October 20th 5-8 pm

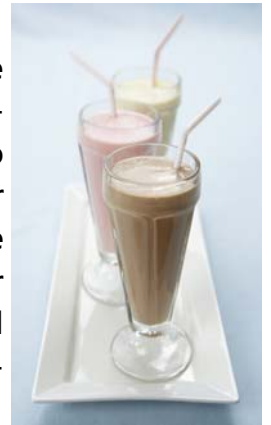
Come learn about keeping your child healthy and other health care related concerns.

**FREE** event—Childcare Provided

Free dinner for parents and children.

Watch for additional information to be sent home.

**Super Smoothie Days are coming back by popular demand! Watch for details to come home soon! Looking for volunteers to help make smoothies on Friday, October 14th. If you are available and willing to help, please call Jennifer Steele at [517-392-1452](tel:517-392-1452).**



## **Bullying**

**WHAT you DON'T KNOW... can HURT (your child)**

**Learn More**

**Thursday, October 13, 6:30—8:15 pm**

**Middle School at Parkside Auditorium**

**(Refreshments and Check-in 6:00—6:30 pm)**



**PK-12 Parents, educators, service agencies, and concerned citizens are encouraged to attend to learn more about bullying and be part of a countywide solution.**

**RSVP by October 10th (517) 768-5158**





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## PLEASE HELP SUPPORT OUR ART PROGRAM

The CES Art Program is sponsored and 100% financially supported by the PTO. Due to increased costs and deeper school cuts the PTO is asking for your assistance in providing any donations for art classes. Drop off any donations near the recycling bins. Please call Nancy Backus at 517-938-8045 for further information. A BIG thank you to those who have donated already!

### Art Wish List

Yarn  
Beads  
Wire

Exterior Paint—Any Color

Wood—4X8 sheets or smaller pieces

Mosaics—Tile—Marbles—Glass Globbs

Plastic Bottle Caps

Foam Paint Brushes—Any sizes

Clay Tools

Clay—Self-Hardening



## POSITIVE ATTITUDE

A positive attitude ticket is awarded to any student who is seen displaying positive behavior. Keep your tickets and you will be included in a drawing every Friday for prizes and Breakfast with the Principal!



## CES Attendance Hotline

592-7552

Please call anytime, day or night, if your children will be absent. Just please leave a message.



Thank you!

## School Dismissal Procedures



*Walkers* dismiss at the school west end doors

*Pick-ups*—Parents pick up students in the cafeteria. Enter/exit at the west cafeteria doors.

Please call the office by 2:15 pm for a change in your child's dismissal.

## Flu Season Reminder

Per the health department, your child must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school. Also, if your child is taking an antibiotic, please administer for at least 24 hours before returning to school. This will help to limit the amount of contagious "bugs" being spread.

Remember:  
Always wash  
your hands!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Oct. 7th—Race for Education**

**Oct. 11th—MEAP Testing Begins**

**Oct. 11th, 12th and 15th  
CES Family Portrait Fundraiser**

**Oct. 14th—CP Credit Union  
Kick-off Day**

**Oct. 17th—School Board  
Meeting**

**October 24th—PTO Meeting**

**October 28th—CES Fall Carnival  
AT THE HIGH SCHOOL!**

**Nov. 5th at CES  
10:00 am—12:00 pm  
Brooklyn Area Early Childhood  
Association (BAECA)  
Free Family Fun Event  
"Take Your Pet to the Vet"  
0-5 years (kindergarten)  
Includes many different stations  
like story time, math, computers,  
crafts, snacks and a free book to  
every child who attends!**

**Nov. 17th at CES  
6:00 pm—7:30 pm  
Family Geography Night  
FREE!**

A HUGE thank you goes out to all the volunteers who helped out on "playground equipment moving day". Thank you to everyone for the food, t-shirts, tools, backhoe, kubota, and trimmer, but most importantly, the hard



# OCTOBER 2011



**CES is a bucket filling school! We fill buckets...No Dipping!  
Ask yourself, Have you filled a bucket today?**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 Student Count Day 	6 Balloons Around the world Day	7 Race for Education Happy Birthday Mr. Iott!	8 
9	10	11 MEAP Testing begins 	12	13	14 CP Credit Union Kick-Off 2:00 pm Super Smoothie Day	15 Happy Birthday Miss Connie!
16 	17 School Board Mtg. Comm. Room H.S. 7:30 pm	18 PTO Meeting 6:00 pm Media Center	19	20	21 Popcorn Day 	22
23 Make a Difference Day	24	25	26	27 Happy Birthday Mrs. Rittinger!	28 CES Carnival— held at CCHS 	29 Happy Birthday Mr. Cryderman!
30	31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN Happy Birthday Mrs. Jones!					



## **Bring a friend Free October 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>**

You and your guests visit is FREE to our classes and/or **fitness room!**

## **Week of October 10<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>**

Daily drawing for free gifts!

Thanks to our current members – Free refreshments!

### **New Fall Group Exercise Schedule starting October 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Our New Group Exercise schedule features 37 classes, the most we've ever had on our schedule! We have 7 new classes, 6 seasonal classes returning, and 2 existing classes on a different day.

### **CC Fitness Center hours of operation update.**

We will be re-opening at 4:00pm Monday – Thursday – effective immediately

We will be open on Sunday's from 7:00am – 11:00am – effective October 9<sup>th</sup>

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## **Tae Kwon Do**

We're inviting kid's 5 years old and up to improve balance, self-esteem, coordination, awareness, discipline and a positive outlook on life.

Cost: \$40 a month ongoing - Join anytime! - **Adults welcome too!**

Monday & Wednesday 5:00pm to 6:30pm @ CC Fitness Center

**FIRST CLASS IS FREE**

Call the center for details 517-592-3393 or visit our website [www.ccfitnesscenter.org](http://www.ccfitnesscenter.org)